Consumer Movement in Rural Areas

1712. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan of action to tak'j the consumer movement to the rural areas for the benefit of the people ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) what effective measures are being taken by Government in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (d) Governnment has taken a number of measures to increase consumer consciousness amongst the people in rural areas. Such measures include preparation of audio-visual materials, printed literature in the form of booklets brochures, posters, postcard size materials, etc. in the field of consumer protection. The Government is also publishing a quarterly journal, 'Upbhokta Jagaran', which disseminates useful information to the consumers. The Printed materials are made available free of cost to tlie consumer organisations for spreading the message of consumer protection amongst all sections of the society including the rural people. Besides, financial assistance is also provided to State Governments/UT Administrations for arranging regional/ State level seminars and workshops for involving the people at the grass-root level in the programmes of consumer protection. Voluntry organisations are being encouraged to spread consumer awareness in rural areas.

Duplicate Electric Goods

1713. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that non-ISI marked and duplicate electric goods are sold by retailers throughout the country resulting in electric shocks and damage to electric gadgets ;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take so that only ISI marked electric goods are marketed in the country;

(c) whether Government have taken any action in this regard during the last **two** years; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE **MINISTRY** OF **CIVIL** SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) There are reports about the electric goods which the under mandatory BIS certification, being sold without **ISI** mark in some parts of the country.

(b) to (d) The enforcement of the quality control orders issued under the Es sential Commodities act, 1955 lies with the States/UTs. The Government of India has been urging the States/UTs from time to time to ensure efFective enforcement of quality control orders. Some of the actions taken in the recent past are as under :—

(a) 3 GLS lamps manufacturing units were raided in Delhi and large quantity of GLS lamps seized.

(b)Electric switches and sockets seized by the Govt, of Tamil Nadu from traders in Madras and Madurai.

(c) Electric irons and immersion rods seized by the Govt, of Haryana in Ambala.

(d) 1727 seizures made by the Govt, of Gujarat covering various ellectrical items covered under relevant quality control orders.

तोल और माप नियमों की समीक्षा

1714. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने खुले-बाजार की अर्थव्यवस्था की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने तथा उपभोक्ताओं के हितों के संरक्षण को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए तोल और माप नियमों की समीक्षा करने का निर्णय लिया है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में वर्तमान स्थिति सहित विचाराधीन प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा क्या है,

(ग) इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या-क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं कि कानून के तकनीकी पहलू और प्रवर्तन तंत्र प्रौद्योगिकी के विकास के साथ समान गति से आगे बढ़े, और

(घ) माप पद्धति के विभिन्न पहलुओं के बारे में प्रवर्तन तंत्र, जनता, उद्योग और व्यापार को शिक्षित करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं जिससे कि अधिनियम का कार्यान्वयन प्रभावी ढंग से हो सके तथा इसे उपभोक्ताओं के लिए और अधिक लाभदायक बनाये जा सके ?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज):

(क) बाट तथा माप नियमों की समय-समय पर समीक्षा की जाती है । जब कभी भी आवश्यक समझा जाता है, उन्हें संशोधित किया जाता है ।